

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FEA-01 EA-07 FRB-03 IO-10

NEA-10 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /130 W

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P R 031645Z SEP 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 8322

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 22535

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: GREEK DEMARCHE RE PARTICIPATION IN PRODUCER/  
CONSUMER CONFERENCE

1. GREEK AMBASSADOR ATHANASSOPOULOS CALLED ON CHARGE  
SEPT 2 TO REGISTER "STRONG" GOG INTEREST IN PARTICIPA-  
TION AT PROJECTED 27 NATION PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE.  
AMBASSADOR SAID HE WAS CALLING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS AND  
THAT HE UNDERSTOOD SIMILAR DEMARCHE WAS BEING MADE IN  
WASHINGTON. ATHANASSOPOULOS MADE FOLLOWING POINTS IN  
SUPPORT OF GREEK REQUEST FOR SEAT AT CONFERENCE:

A. GREECE MAINTAINS EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH ARAB  
COUNTRIES AND COULD ACT AS AN INTERMEDIARY WITH THE  
ARABS IN A LONG DIALOGUE;  
B. GREECE IS A MAJOR MARITIME TRANSPORT POWER;  
C. BECAUSE OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN GREECE  
DURING THE LAST YEAR THE GOG HAS NOT YET HAD AN  
OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF IEA MEMBERSHIP.

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HOWEVER, GREECE HAS FULLY SUPPORTED ALL THE IEA'S GOALS

AND DECISIONS, AND HAS UNILATERALLY TAKEN SIMILAR MEASURES AS THOSE AGREED BY IEA MEMBERS.

D. ACTUALLY, THE FACT THAT IT IS NOT A MEMBER WOULD FACILITATE ITS CONSTRUCTIVE PARTICIPATION AT A P/C CONFERENCE SINCE IT COULD SERVE MORE EASILY AS A BRIDGE TO THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS.

E. CONSIDERATION OF THIS ISSUE SHOULD BE KEPT SEPARATE FROM THE GREEK-TURKEY PROBLEM. GREECE CONSIDERS BOTH TURKEY AND GREECE COULD BE PARTICIPANTS AT CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, IF THIS NOT POSSIBLE THEN A CHOICE MUST BE MADE BETWEEN THEM. GREECE IS THE BETTER CHOICE IF THE OECD COUNTRIES CAREFULLY ASSESS THE OBJECTIVES OF THE DIALOGUE.

F. THE U.S. POSITION ON THIS ISSUE WILL BE DETERMINING. GREECE WOULD VIEW U.S. SUPPORT AS A CONCRETE STEP TOWARDS RENEWAL OF THE CLOSE TIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETURN OF GREECE TO THE "DEMOCRATIC" PATH.

2. COMMENT: WITH ATHANASSOPOULOS IT IS SOMETIMES HARD TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER HE IS OPERATING ON SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS, OR WHETHER HE IS OPERATING ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE. WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HIS COMMUNICATIONS WITH ATHENS ARE PRETTY MINIMAL (HE HAS SAID SO HIMSELF, IN FACT, IN THE PAST). HOWEVER, HE CLEARLY STATED HE WAS OPERATING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS THIS TIME AND ALTHOUGH WE WERE ENTIRELY NON-COMMITTAL WE ASSURED HIM WE WOULD PASS HIS REMARKS ON IN FULL.  
KATZ

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